

Santa files early flight plan to the 132nd Fighter Wing



Since 1953, the 132d Fighter Wing has been offering Santa Claus a fighter aircraft to fly from the North Pole to Des Moines for its annual Children's Holiday Party. A group of unit members, with the assistance of several of Santa's elves, are again working together to plan this year's events to be held on December 8th and 9th.

We are continuing with the format we've used the past several years of having the Community Party on the first night and the Wing Party on the second night. Wednesday, December 9 is the Wing Party for the children and families of our unit members, state employees, and friends.

Both events will take place in the West hangar, with cookies and beverages starting at 6:30 p.m. The elves are planning Holiday craft activities and sing-a-longs with the children before Santa's arrival in the F-16. If you are interested in helping with craft activities or serving holiday treats, please contact Amanda Wicker in the Family Readiness Office at (515) 256-8786. For those requiring for handicap accessibility or other special needs, again contact Amanda Wicker.

Parents/sponsors are responsible for insuring that Santa's gift is no larger than 12x12x12 and cost no more than \$20.00. Parents/sponsors are asked to print the first and last name of the child clearly on a 5x7 card and securely tape it to the package. We would also ask that each family tie their packages together to insure that the children within that family get their presents at the same time. The packages should be delivered to the flight line lounge, bottom floor of building 124, during the December UTA. For those who will not be attending the December UTA, please deliver your packages to the same area no later than 5 p.m., day of the event.

These events have grown and evolved over the years. It has become a family tradition for many of us with several generations in attendance.